



B. Glossary

Action - a project, technology, activity or program that is meant to achieve greenhouse gas emission reductions, adaptations and other community benefits

Adaptation - actions and efforts directed to increasing community and operational functionality and resiliency to extreme events or during prolonged economic, environmental and social system changes due to climate change

Carbon Dioxide Equivalent – unit for comparing the relative potency of effect of other greenhouse gases using carbon dioxide as the standard unit of measure - 1, referred to as CO₂e. Ex. Methane is 34, CO₂ is 1

Carbon Footprint – the amount of greenhouse gases that can be attributed to the activities and processes of an organization, differentiating between owned and supply chain emission sources and boundaries. Methodologies vary but are aligning over time.

Carbon intensity - the amount of greenhouse gases emitted per unit of energy consumed

Climate – the prevailing weather conditions in a geographic area over an extended period

Co-Benefits – the discrete, additional community benefits beyond emissions reductions (mitigates and adapts in one action, leverages existing efforts, revenue generation or cost avoidance, health and safety, opportunity for social equity, community support, economic development of a cluster etc.)

Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Inventory - local, sector-based emissions, in addition to emissions that are generated during production and delivery of imported goods, energy and food consumed within the Eugene community, and exclude sector-based emissions from local production that are exported.

Cost Effectiveness – marginal cost or savings compared to the business-as-usual scenario divided by metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent mitigation potential over the lifespan of the action.

Goal – the aim or result of action meant to reduce or eliminate GHG emissions for a community, city operations or for any set of strategies or specific action. Goals tend to be set for longer terms and wider boundaries.

Greenhouse gases (GHGs) – are the gases in the atmosphere that contribute to the greenhouse effect in the atmosphere. The Kyoto Protocol defined 6 greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydro fluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). Increased



concentration of these gases (e.g., carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide) are emitted into the atmosphere by human activity and natural phenomena.

GHG inventory – like a carbon footprint, a GHG inventory measures anthropogenic (human-made) greenhouse gas resulting from the activities within a defined boundary – such as operational control of an organization; a City’s geographic boundary; or lifecycle impacts of a particular product or project.

Indicator/metric – a unit or standard of measure to gauge performance

Mitigation – actions directed toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change and the extent to which we experience significant changes in weather, food, water, human health, etc.

Mitigation Potential – average annual achievable Scope 1 and Scope 2 reductions of carbon dioxide from fossil fuel combustion or anthropogenic process emissions.

Parts Per Million (PPM) – the concentration of a gas, generally carbon dioxide, in the air. Climate modeling is based off different concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. As of 2017, the average global CO₂e is ~406. Pre-Industrial concentrations of CO₂e were ~280.

Sector-Based Greenhouse Gas Inventory - local emissions from energy use by homes, businesses, and vehicles as well as emissions from landfilling solid waste and wastewater treatment.

Sequestration – the biological capture of a material or gas, general referenced to carbon dioxide within an ecosystem or living system (e.g., ocean, soil, tree). Ex. Plants sequester carbon in wood and soil. Mechanical systems aim to inject CO₂ into underground reservoirs or embody CO₂ in minerals such as chalk and other inert elements.

Strategy – a policy or plan of action to achieve a goal. A strategy could encompass many actions or just one.

Target – a goal on a shorter timeframe for a specific action or strategy.

Weather – the state of the atmosphere in a discrete time and location, measuring aspects such as temperature, humidity and precipitation